<u>**NE94 Telephone Follow-Up to Intercept Survey Instrument: Justification**</u>

The justification for each Question in the survey is provided below. For each Question the subset of respondents that will be asked the given question is indicated in the following manner. Questions asked of all respondents are denoted with the abbreviation AR. Other abbreviations are as follows: TR denotes question asked of respondents that have targeted the species of interest during the 2 month wave but not on the intercepted trip; NTR denotes questions asked to respondents that did not target the species of interest during the 2 month wave; OA denotes question asked of overnight respondents; BO denotes questions asked of respondents who own a boat; BF denotes questions asked of respondents who fished from a boat; EH denotes questions asked of individuals who are employed; UH denotes questions asked of individuals who are not employed.

Question 1   AR - The information collected in Question 1 will be used to help evaluate persistence of angler behavior for use in estimating fishing values. Information on previous travel behavior to the intercepted site can provide insights into patterns of travel behavior. Individuals that have visited the same site on multiple occasions may have a higher likelihood of selecting that site than otherwise. This information will be incorporated in the behavioral model used to estimate saltwater fishing values.

Question 2   AR - See Question 1

Question 3   AR - See Question 1

Question 4   AR - See Question 1
                    Skip Justification: If angler did not indicate the fishing trip was part of an overnight stay, question 5 is skipped.

Question 5   OA - Information obtained from Question 3 will be used to estimate the propensity of overnight trips and to characterize overnight trip patterns.

Question 6   AR – The top three reasons why individuals choose to fish will be used to explore angler motivations.

Question 7   BR - The amount of monetary costs associated with boat related fees, such as, rental fees, boat launching fees and party/charter fees are elicited for use in the development of behavioral models to estimate saltwater recreation values. Included as a component of travel cost.

Question 8   AR - The number of years a respondent has been saltwater recreational fishing will be used to characterize anglers. Years of experience may be treated as a measure of avidity and used in modeling the economic value of saltwater recreational fishing. Years of fishing experience may also be correlated with attitudes toward fishing and a variety of other characteristics such as boat ownership and investment in fishing equipment.

Question 9   AR – Importance of recreational fishing. The relative importance of saltwater recreational fishing is certain to influence other attitudes and overall involvement in saltwater angling.

Question 10   AR – Likert scale ranking of possible objectives for saltwater fishing. Objectives and motivations provide background and explanation of recreational fishing behavior.

Question 11   AR – Support (opposition) of various regulatory measures indicates attitudes towards those regulations. These attitudes are useful in explaining behavior.

Question 12   AR - Solicits willingness to pay (WTP) for a permit that would allow the holder to maintain current striper catch limits in the face of limit reductions. Direct welfare values associated with a change in the bag limit can be calculated.
SKIP JUSTIFICATION: If angler answer is greater than $0, skip to Question 13. This allows exploration of the $0 bid. It is thought that there may be several reasons distinctly different reasons for a $0 bid and this skip directs those with $0 bids to a follow-up question used to illicit the motivations behind the $0 bid.

Question 12a   AR - Decisions not to place values on bag limit increases for the species of interest may be based on a variety of factors. The information collected in Question 11a will be used to characterize individuals not perceived to obtain any benefit from the illustrated bag limit enhancement scenarios. It will also be used to identify $0 bids that may be better classified as protest against the particular policy. These types of bids must be rejected from the valuation models because those individuals may actually place a value on the species but instead they respond with a $0 bid as a form of protest against the policy.

Question 13   AR - Solicits willingness to pay (WTP) for a permit that would allow the holder to maintain current bluefish catch limits in the face of limit reductions. Direct welfare values associated with a change in the bag limit can be calculated.
SKIP JUSTIFICATION: If angler answer is greater than $0, skip to Question 13. This allows exploration of the $0 bid. It is thought that there may be several reasons distinctly different reasons for a $0 bid and this skip directs those with $0 bids to a follow-up question used to illicit the motivations behind the $0 bid.

Question 13a   AR - Decisions not to place values on bag limit increases for the species of interest may be based on a variety of factors. The information collected in Question 11a will be used to characterize individuals not perceived to obtain any benefit from the illustrated bag limit enhancement scenarios. It will also be used to identify $0 bids that may be better classified as protest against the particular policy. These types of bids must be rejected from the valuation models because those individuals may actually place a value on the species but instead they respond with a $0 bid as a form of protest against the policy.

Question 14   AR – Boat ownership indicates a degree of avidity couple with a high enough income to support boat purchase and maintenance. Boat ownership may influence attitudes toward fishing and may affect the type of trip, species targeting behavior, and fishing site selection. Again, this can be used to construct angler profiles and explain angler behavior.
Skip Justification: Those angler not owning boats are not asked to provide a boat length and question 15 is skipped.

Question 15   BR – Boat length also indicates degree of investment into angling and can be used to develop angler profiles. It also may affect the type of trip, species targeting behavior, and fishing site selection.

Question 16   AR – Ethnicity is useful for developing angler profiles.

Question 17   AR - Race will be used to develop angler profiles for the Regions. Social and demographic factors may also be used in developing the behavioral model to estimate saltwater recreational fishing values.

Question 18   AR - Gender will be used to develop a profile of participation behavior. Past studies have shown gender to be related to the likelihood that a respondent fishes, with women being less likely to participate.

Question 19   AR – Number of individual in the household will be used to develop angler profiles.

Question 20   AR - Education will be used to develop angler profiles. Past research suggests that those with higher incomes are more likely to recreate and spend more on recreation.

Question 21   AR - Employment status will be used to develop angler profiles. Past research using the travel cost method and its variants have stressed the importance of assigning a value to the individual's opportunity cost of time. The opportunity cost of time may be thought of as being affected by whether the individual is employed, the nature of the employment, whether any income was actually foregone in order to take the trip, and the value of the foregone income. All of these factors will be evaluated and used in the economic valuation model to compute an appropriate value of time.
SKIP JUSTIFICATION: If angler is employed, unemployment reason is not needed and Question 22 is skipped.

Question 22   UH –Unemployment types also have explanatory power in the opportunity cost equation. A retired individual's time has a different opportunity cost than the opportunity cost of time that a student has.
SKIP JUSTIFICATION: Because the unemployed do not earn wages from job, wage and salary information is unnecessary. As a result, Questions 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, and 29 are skipped.

Question 23   EH – Self-employment also has explanatory power in the opportunity cost equation. A self-employed individual is likely to have more flexible schedule than someone employed outside the home.

Question 24   EH – Hourly wages are easily translated in hourly opportunity cost of time, but salaries must be converted to hourly figures. Anglers were then asked whether they work for hourly wages or salaries.

Question 25   EH –Weekly hours worked is a component of opportunity cost of time.

Question 26   EH – Work schedule flexibility is useful in explaining angling behavior.

Question 27   EH – Paid vacation is an important component of the opportunity cost of the angler's time, and the angler was asked whether or not income was foregone.

Question 28   EH – Foregone income is an important component of the opportunity cost of the angler's time, and the angler was asked whether or not income was foregone.
SKIP JUSTIFICATION: If no income was foregone, i.e. paid vacation, weekend, etc, then 29 was skipped.

Question 29   EH – Again, the exact amount of income foregone is an important component of opportunity cost of time.

Question 30   AR - Total annual household income will be used to develop angler profiles for the Regions. Also, income is an explanatory variable used in the estimation of economic valuation models. Thus, income will be used in estimation of saltwater recreational fishing values in each Region.